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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/671,008	09/27/2000	Akira Tsuneya	0941.64787	6639

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EXAMINER

MCCARTHY, CHRISTOPHER S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2113

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/671,008

Applicant(s)

TSUNEYA ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher S. McCarthy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/7/2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: response to arguments.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dev et al. U.S. Patent 5,559,955, as cited in prior office action, which was mailed on 2/9/2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dev et al. U.S. Patent 5,559,955.

As per claim 1, Dev discloses an apparatus for monitoring devices connected to a network, comprising a relationship object maintaining part maintaining dependent information for each relationship between devices connected to the network, said dependent information indicating how one device influences another device when the one device causes a problem (column 2, lines 45-58); an event table maintaining part maintaining device information, which identifies a device in the network, indicated by an event received from the device (column 2, lines 45-58; column 7, line 60 – column 8, line 8); an event collecting part collecting each event received from the devices and controlling the event table maintaining part to maintain the device information when the event indicates a problem (column 2, lines 45-58; column 7, line 60 – column 8, line 8); and a problem alarm notifying part determining, based on the dependent

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information maintained by the relationship object maintaining part, whether or not each of the devices identified by the device information maintained by the event table maintaining part influences another device by the problem, and specifying which device is causing the problem in accordance with a result of the determination, so that an alarm is displayed with respect to the specified device which is causing the problem and influences another device. (column 8, lines 29-38).

As per claim 2, Dev discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dependent information is defined for each of a first direction from said one device to said another device and a second direction from said another device to said one device by dependent information between the devices (column 2, lines 35-58).

As per claim 3, Dev discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein: said device information maintained by said event table maintaining part includes a suppressing flag for suppressing said problem alarm notifying part from specifying that the device corresponding to said device information is causing the problem (column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4); and said problem alarm notifying part determines whether or not the event table maintaining part is to maintain the device information of another event received from another device indicated by the dependent information corresponding to said event received from the device, and controls a suppressing flag based on the dependent information in accordance with a result of the determination, so that said problem alarm notifying part specified which device is causing the problem by causing that the suppressing flag is off. (column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4; column 8, lines 29-38).

As per claim 4, Dev discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the dependent information, said event collecting part controls said relationship object maintaining part to change or add the dependent information in accordance with a predetermined rule for defining the dependent information based on the relationship between two types of the devices (column 4, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 5, Dev discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a management object maintaining part maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the configuration information, said event collecting part controls said management object maintaining part to change or add the configuration information indicated by the event, and controls said relationship object maintaining part to change or add the dependent information related to devices connected to the device that sent the event (column 4, lines 17-25, 33-35; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 6, Dev discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a management object maintaining part maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed (column 4, lines 17-25, 33-35); a management object displaying part representing each configuration information maintained by said management object maintaining part as a clickable image on a display unit (column 12, lines 47-56); and a relationship displaying part displaying several selectable types of the dependent information to define the dependent information between the devices corresponding to the clickable images when at least two clickable images are clicked (column 12, line 47 – column

13, line 31), wherein the dependent information defined by said relationship displaying part is maintained by said relationship object maintaining part (column 2, lines 45-58).

As per claim 7, Dev discloses a method for managing a network, comprising the steps of: (a) maintaining dependent information for each relationship between devices connected to the network, said dependent information indicating how one device influences another device when the one device causes a problem (column 2, lines 45-58); (b) maintaining device information, which identifies a device in the network, indicated by an event received from the device (column 2, lines 45-58; column 7, line 60 – column 8, line 8); (c) collecting each event received from the devices and executing the step (b) to maintain the device information when the event indicates a problem (column 2, lines 45-58; column 7, line 60 – column 8, line 8); and (d) determining, based on the dependent information maintained in the step (a), whether or not each of the devices identified by the device information maintained in the step (b) influences another device by the problem, and specifying which device is causing the problem in accordance with a result of the determination, so that an alarm is displayed with respect to the specified device which is causing the problem and influences another device (column 8, lines 29-38).

As per claim 8, Dev discloses the method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said dependent information is defined for each of a first direction from said one device to said another device and from a second direction said another device to said one device by dependent information between the devices (column 2, lines 35-58).

As per claim 9, Dev discloses the method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said device information maintained in said step (b) includes a suppressing flag for suppressing from specifying that the device corresponding to said device information is causing the problem

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(column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4); and said step (d) determines whether or not the device information of another event, which is received from another device indicated by the dependent information corresponding to said event received from the device, is to be maintained in the step (b), and controls said suppressing flag based on the dependent information in accordance with a result of the determination, so that said step (d) specifies which device is causing the problem by checking that the suppressing flag is off (column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4; column 8, lines 29-38).

As per claim 10, Dev discloses the method as claimed in claim 7, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the dependent information, said step (c) executes said (a) to change or add the dependent information in accordance with a predetermined rule for defining the dependent information based on the relationship between two types of the devices (column 4, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 11, Dev discloses the method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a step of (e) maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the configuration information, said step (c) executes said step (e) to change or add the configuration information indicated by the event, and executes said step (a) to change or add the dependent information related to devices connected to the device that sent the event (column 4, lines 33-35, 17-25; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 12, Dev discloses the method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising steps of (e) maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed (column 4, lines 17-25; column 4, lines 33-35); (f) representing each

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configuration information maintained in said step (e) as a clickable image on a display unit (column 12, lines 47-56); and (g) displaying several selectable types of the dependent information to define the dependent information between the devices corresponding to the clickable images when at least two clickable images are clicked (column 12, line 47 – column 13, line 31), wherein the dependent information defined in said step (g) is maintained in said step (a).

As per claim 13, Dev discloses a computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded thereon for causing a computer to manage a network, comprising the codes of: (a) maintaining dependent information for each relationship between devices connected to the network, said dependent information indicating how one device influences another device when the one device causes a problem (column 4, lines 17-25, 33-35); (b) maintaining device information, which identifies a device in the network, indicated by an event received from the device (column 12, lines 47-56); (c) collecting each event received from the devices and executing the code (b) to maintain the device information when the event indicates a problem (column 12, line 47 – column 13, line 13); and (d) determining, based on the dependent information maintained by the code (a), whether or not each of the devices identified by the device information maintained by the code (b) influences another device by the problem, and specifying which device is causing the problem in accordance with a result of the determination, so that an alarm is displayed with respect to the specified device which is causing the problem and influences another device (column 2, lines 45-58).

As per claim 14, Dev discloses the computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said dependent information is defined for each of a first direction from said

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one device to said another device and from a second direction said another device to said one device by dependent information between the devices (column 2, lines 35-58).

As per claim 15, Dev discloses the computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said device information maintained by said code (b) includes a suppressing flag for suppressing from specifying that the device corresponding to said device information is causing the problem (column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4); and said code (d) determines whether or not the device information of another event, which is received from another device indicated by the dependent information corresponding to said event received from the device, is to be maintained by the code (b), and controls said suppressing flag based on the dependent information in accordance with a result of the determination, so that said code (d) specifies which device is causing the problem by checking that the suppressing flag is off (column 10, line 54 – column 11, line 4; column 8, lines 29-38).

As per claim 16, Dev discloses the computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the dependent information, said code (c) executes said code (a) to change or add the dependent information in accordance with a predetermined rule for defining the dependent information based on the relationship between two types of the devices (column 4, lines 33-35; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 17, Dev discloses the computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the code of (e) maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed, wherein when the event received from the device indicates to change or add the configuration information, said code (c) executes said code

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(e) to change or add the configuration information indicated by the event, and executes said code (a) to change or add the dependent information related to devices connected to the device that sent the event (column 4, lines 17-25, 33-35; column 8, lines 51-64).

As per claim 18, Dev discloses the computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 13, further comprising the codes of: (e) maintaining configuration information related to a configuration of each of the devices to be managed (column 4, lines 17-25, 33-35); (f) representing each configuration information maintained by said code (e) as a clickable image on a display unit (column 12, lines 47-56); and (g) displaying several selectable types of the dependent information to define the dependent information between the devices corresponding to the clickable images when at least two clickable images are clicked (column 12, line 47 – column 13, line 13), wherein the dependent information defined by said code (g) is maintained by said code (a) (column 2, lines 45-58).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 6/7/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As per claims 1, 7, and 13, the applicant amends the claims and argues that Dev et al. does not disclose or suggest the problem alarm notifying part which specifies which device is causing the alarm, so that an alarm is displayed with respect to the specified device which is causing the alarm. The examiner respectfully disagrees. In column 8, lines 44-45 Dev teaches that a model corresponds to each network device. Dev further teaches in column 8, lines 29-38 that an alarm log is kept and displayed to the user which notifies the user of the cause of the

alarm in the specified model. Dev further teaches in column the relation each model has in connection with another model. Since Dev teaches the connection of models, which correspond to a network device, and also gives the cause of the alarm of the network device, the Dev invention fulfills the amended and argued limitation of a problem alarm notifying part which specifies which device is causing the alarm, so that an alarm is displayed with respect to the specified device which is causing the alarm. Therefore, all applicable rejected claims stand.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher S. McCarthy whose telephone number is (703)305-7599. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8 - 4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (703)305-9713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csm
August 4, 2003


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